LINCOLN'S WRITINGS.

COMPLETE EDITION OF HIS WORKS,

ABRAHAM LINCOLN. Complete Works. Edited by John G. Nicolay and John Hay. Two voi-umes Large octavo. Pp. 770. New-York: The Century Co.

The story of Abraham Lincoln is told in detail by himself in these two sumptuous volumes containing his speeches, state papers, correspondence and miscellaneous writings. The two blographers who have been associated in compiling the record of his private life and public career had access to an immense amount of fresh material which had never been brought to light. Having finished their great work, which is one of the most valuable contributions to American history. they have supplemented it with an orderly and full compilation of the writings of the great President, with annotations where explanations are requisite, and with a complete index which the whole treasure-house like a combinavolumes are printed in large letter on heavy them as standard books of American history.

proclamations and State papers contained in these volumes are less interesting from the familiarity of well-informed readers with them than the mass of private correspondence, a very large proportion of which has never before been printed. These letters during his earlier years were often they reveal the characteristic homely traits and is very distinct and vivid. Yet the impression is thought and discernment of the forces of public ous plots were most bustly fomented Napoleon practical talents of this many-sided man of genius and destiny. During the war period pondence for the man overwhelmed with the honest at all events; and if in your judgment spurs, or discharging the multifarious routine duanxieties and responsibilities of office. Military campaigning brought with it an immense amount of executive detail in vigilant supervision of the operations of the armies, in appointments, promotions and discipline of the officers, and in dealing with deserters and State officials. To read these pages is not only to revive memories of the heroic period of arms, but also to gain an appreciative idea of the inexhaustible resources of patience, sagacity, industry and courage displayed by the martyr leader of the Nation.

The first address made by Lincoln as a candidate for the Illinois Legislature, on March 9, 1832, bears evidence of careful preparation and intimate acquaintance with local conditions. It is deeply interesting as the first landmark of a political career destined to be as great as it was nique; and it is not without premonitions of the responsibilities of future leadership. It is the appeal of a backwoodsman accustomed to discuss at the cross-roads' stores questions in which the pioneer settlers of Sangamon County were The most important of these issues was that of internal improvements concerning which there was a division of opinion in the county. The young candidate for legislative honors approaches the subject with an open mind and with homely good sense. The only objection to improvements, he tersely says, arises from want of ability to pay for them. If railroads and canals were to cost nothing, everybody would be in favor of them; but it would be folly to undertake works of this kind without first ascertaining what they would cost and whether they could ever be finished. He then points out resources of the community, discussing it with local knowledge derived from his own experience on the way to Washington. in building and operating flatboats and in work-

ance, the practice of lending money at exorbitant petulty of the Union and the execution of the rates of interest, and advocates a law for regu- laws in all the States as the dominating themes, lating it. On the subject of education he urges and with this pathetic appeal for peace at the and them histories of his own and other countries so as to must not be enemies. Though passion may have nothing of the advantages and satisfaction to be derived from all being able to read the Scriptures, and other works both of a religious and moral nature for themselves."

Strained, it must not break our bonds of affection must directly an myself. I thought others in the privates and subalterns of the party opposed to him, he was comparatively indifferent. His is one of a thousand in these two great volumes which might be cited as evidence of Lincoln's which might be cited as e moral nature for themselves." Then he concludes with a characteristic passage, apologizing again touched, as surely they will be, by the betfor his youthful presumption in discussing so ter angels of our nature." On his first day in many important questions, declaring that he office Lincoln was confronted with the untimely has spoken as he has thought and that he will disarrangement of his Cabinet appointments, be ready to renounce his opinions when he discovers that they are erroneous, and adding these ance of the State Department, and he was conprophetic words: "Every man is said to have strained to beg of him to reconsider his refusal. I can say, for one, that I have no other so great his inauguration and, although short, it bears as that of being truly esteemed by my fellow- evidence of the most painful solicitude. Then and unknown to many of you. I was born and have ever remained in the most humble walks of life. I have no wealthy or popular relations or friends to recommond me. My case is thrown exclusively upon the independent voters of the country; and, if elected, they will have conferred a favor upon me for which I shall be unremitting in my labors to compensate. But if the good disappointments to be very much chagrined." This address occupies the first place in this collection of Lincoln's writings and it is so characteristic of the homely fibre of his manhood, of the sincerity and honesty of his motives, of his practical skill in dealing with public questions, of his sympathetic discernment of the everyday thinking of the masses, and of his premonitions of a career of tremendous responsiintroduction to two richly stored volumes.

More significant than the memorials and records of Lincoln's legislative experiences at the opening of his public life are some of the private letters in which the characteristics and bright future in any event; with Smith it is under perfect self-control, and his words, whether eccentricities of the man are revealed. One of now or never.' I considered either abundantly mild or harsh, were evidently chosen for the octhe most grotesque of his love affairs is told competent, and decided on the ground I have casion. Méneval had to endure this ordeal but man's excitement was artificial. But he had in a farcical spirit in a letter to Mrs. Brown- stated. I now have to beg that you will not ence. It was some time after he had taken his paid minute attention to Napoleon's moods, and ing written in 1838. A married friend who was do me the injustice to suppose for a moment about to visit her father's home in Kentucky that I remember anything against you in malice." but in the mean while he had observed the effect passion his face assumed an even terrible exoffered to return with her sister if he would The diplomatic appointments he was anxious to of Napoleon's manner upon others. In fact he agree in advance to marry her. Lincoln con- make without delay, so as to have the European received the official title by which he was first bly produced itself on his forehead, and between sented and in due time was introduced to the capitals strongly guarded, and he suggested to called "Attaché to the First Consul" as the resister, who proved to be old, fat and not at all | Secretary Seward these names: Dayton, to Engto his liking. He had given his word and at- land; Fremont, to France; Clay, to Spain, and tempted to make the best of the stuation, trying Corwin, to Mexico. A week afterward he achard to imagine her handsome and possessed of attractions. After he had delayed the matter ard's recommendation, revised the list so as as long as he thought be could do in honor, he to include Dayton, Marsh and Burlingame only made a direct proposal to her and she refused one of them being his own selection. "And then," by Napoleon's desire to aid the friends of his | cool. The blood never went to it, flowing back him. At first he supposed this to be an affecta- he adds, with the politician's instinct, "what youth. He had been the First Consul's comrade to the heart." It was in this guise that he pretion of modesty, and repeated the offer, but she about Carl Schurz, or, in other words, what at the Military School. The two men began life sented himself to Meneval on the occasion alrepelled it with greater firmness than before, about our German friends?" His vanity was wounded by the reflection that There is a gleam of humor in a letter to Secrehe had been too stupid to discover her intentions, tary Chase respecting the claims of Christopher

such an altercation." In the duelling corre- the letters of minor importance collected in these spendence with James Shields the rising young volumes relate to political appointments, and are usual startling way. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be

been explained variously by ill-health, by un- vation. fortunate love affairs, by the influence of forest mastered him and carried him dang-rously near ern times. first volume.

the permanent fame which inevitably awaits to his business affairs and to his professional during the hardness" of a prolonged campaign, in coln and Douglas and the Presidential messages, law. The most honest of 'awyers himself, he The pressure of public cares and executive detail honor. "There is a vague popular belief," he I say vague, because when we consider to what during his waking hours. extent confidence and honors are reposed in and improbable that their impression of dishonesty ing that momentous period were lucidity of that during the whole period when these murderyield to this common belief. Resolve to be liberate generals, or restraining Abolition Hot-

his speeches and legislative reports and resolu-tions are republished in this collection, but lack the charm of novelty, since Herndon and other material in their biographies. The famous dethe first volume, and the text has been carefully revised and filled out from every possible source of information, so as to be the most trustworthy record of it in existence. This debate not only commanded attention for Lincoln as the most logical yet conservative enemy of slavery in the West, and thereby opened the way for the Presideutial nomination, but it also trained and developed the anti-slavery movement in the North, imparting to it a constitutional character. As an exhibition of intellectual sparring and controversial skill, there has been nothing equally fine in the history of American politics. Lincoln's series of speeches made in Kansas is also brought to light, and the famous address at Cooper Institute, which introduced him in the East as an unless they could at the same time save slavery, anti-slavery champion, acting within the lines of the Constitution, is reprinted with other at the same time desir or slavery, I do not agree with them. If there he those who would not save the Union unless they could at the same time desir or slavery, I do not agree at the same time desir or slavery, I do not agree time. His private correspondence before and after his nomination for the Presidency presents little that is characteristic, because he wrote the advantages of a railway to be constructed experienced a politician to allow himself to be a across the State, and estimates the probable cost; drawn into indiscretions in writing, or even into and since the figures are high, he expresses a de- exhibitions of candor which might prove embarcided preference for the improvement of the rassing to him as a candidate. The first volume the Sangamon River as a work better suited to the closes with the patriotic and conservative series of speeches made after his election, while he was

augural address, a splendid example of Lincoln's The candidate also considers a pioneer griev- argumentative and persuasive style, with the perthat every one ought to be enabled to read the close: "We are not enemies, but friends. We is peculiar ambition. Whether it be true or not, This was probably the first letter written after followed five anxious weeks, during which th teem. How far I shall succeed in gratifying Administration seemed to have no definite policy, this ambition is yet to be developed. I am young the Cabinet not being able to agree upon the question of attempting to provision Fort Sumter and the President being finally forced to decide the matter according to his own judgment. Then came the outbreak of hostilities, the proclamations calling out the militia and the volunteers, and war as the culmination of the irrepressible conflict.

people in their wisdom shall see fit to keep me in those early days of vaciliation and uncertainty. Harassed and perplexed as Lincoln was in he was beset with office-seekers and embarrassed by his own kindness of heart when he found it impracticable to reward faithful political service. Mr. Colfax had looked for a Cabinet appointment and had been passed over in favor of lest Colfax should consider this neglect a politi- the first volume of this work as edited by the election of Mr. Douglas in the memorable Sena- Robert H. Sherard, that Napoleon never displayed falcon could pounce on him. As the time passed bility that it admirably serves the purpose of an | torial campaign of 1858, and he accordingly wrote | anger save when he thought it necessary, and | doubtless the numerous plots served to emto him a frank letter containing this passage: "When you were brought forward, I said, 'Colfax is a young man, is already in position, is running a brilliant career, and is sure of a proached him. Nevertheless, he seemed to be that Méneval incurred the only flerce censure cepted Adams for England upon Secretary Sew-

"blockhead enough" to have him. His rays story might be dismissed as a coarse practical plote, if twere not in accord with other romaneding him. I suppose the like never with appended before and never will again; so that if the dismissed as a coarse practical plote, if twere not in accord with other romaneding him. I suppose the like never back work on or two laides in the dismissed its now a set an under letter for series and the subtractive of the series as a practical plote, if twere not in accord with other romaneding him. I another letter for series and the subtractive another kind. An acqualitance with whom he had work set temper, charged him with we had work is letter refer to an affair of honor of the series and the subtractive and the subtractive

cere regret that I permitted myself to get into charge had not been made." A large number of come. But when the sharp practices were made matter in a false light. At any rate, no matter mitted myself to get into charge had not been made." A large number of come. But when the sharp plant how early Méneval reached the cabinet, he found "Miss Hurd: An Enigma" is the little of the new line the duelling correction the letters of minor importance collected in these public. Napoleon's silence was broken in his how early Méneval reached the cabinet, he found "Miss Hurd: An Enigma" is the little of the new line in the duelling correction of the letters of minor importance collected in these public. Napoleon's silence was broken in his how early Méneval reached the cabinet, he found "Miss Hurd: An Enigma" is the little of the new little of the spendence with James Shields the rising young | volumes relate to political appointments, and are usual startling way. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be brought out shortly by Mrs. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be brought out shortly by Mrs. One day, when Meneval usual startling way. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be brought out shortly by Mrs. One day, when Meneval usual startling way. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be brought out shortly by Mrs. One day, when Meneval usual startling way. One day, when Meneval the Emperor before him, and he was frequently story which is to be brought out shortly by Mrs. One day, when Meneval usual startling way. His early letters to John T. Stuart and other upon Lincom's talent as a practical politician. sul enter hurriedly. Calling Bourrienne in a friends contain many evidences of that morbid He was great in so many ways that his dexfeeling of melancholy which was characteristic terity and consummate tact as a politician and said to him severely; of Lincoln throughout his life, and which has manager of men have ordinarily escaped obser-

The second volume is mainly filled with Lingloom upon pioneers and their children, and by coln's messages to Congress, executive proclamavague presentiments and forebodings of his tions, department orders, military memoranda, career of overwhelming responsibility, with its dispatches to army headquarters, and corretragic close. "I am now," he writes, "the most spondence with generals and public men. To read miserable man living. If what I feel were this exhaustive collection of his writings and distributed to the whole human family there | routine work during his Presidential term is not would not be one cheerful face on the earth. only to live over again the storm and stress Whether I shall ever be better I cannot tell; I period of the Civil War, but it is also to receive awfully forebode I shall not. To remain as I an overwhelming impression of the incessant am is impossible; I must die or be better, it labors, anxieties and disappointments which he appears to me." This is one out of many ref- endured with a simple patience and an exalted erences to a melancholy which at times over- faith unexampled among the great men of mod-There were no vacations for the the political and military history of the Civil War to the verge of insanity. Less painful and more President then; no intervals of deer-stalking in this collection of Lincoln's writings at once takes | curious are his apologetic yet unaffected appeals | the Adirondacks, duck-shooting off the North | The book does not indicate here whether the to intimate friends for sympathetic appreciation | Carolina coast, and summering at Cape May, | broken sentence is Napoleon's or Méneval's. The tensions, and it will never be supplanted. The of his poetry, samples of which are found in the Long Branch or Buzzard's Bay. For four years His correspondence contains meagre references | and the President, like a patient soldier, was "enwork; but there is a characteristic fragment which the resources of one-half of the country made up of notes for a lecture or address on were measured against those of the other half. could not tolerate loose ideas about professional was never removed. Lincoln carried in his heart the burden of the hopes and fears of the wrote, "that lawyers are necessarily dishorest. loyal North, and he knew no such thing as rest

The distinguishing characteristics of his volconferred upon lawyers by the people, it appears uminous correspondence and public writings durcommon, almost universal. Let no young man opinion. Whether he was making recommendachoosing the law for a calling for a moment tions to Congress, or imparting energy to deyou cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be ties of his office, he had the faculty of making you cannot be an honest lawyer, resolve to be honest without being a lawyer. Choose seme other occupation, rather than one in the choosing of which you do consent in advance to be a knave."

Lincoln's private correspondence from Washigton during his single term in Congress and his speeches and legislative reports and resolutions are republished in this collection, but lack the charm of novelty, since Herndon and other than the congress and choose his words or to make use of rheorical devices and literary embellishment; but his the charm of novelty, since Herndon and other blographers have made an extended use of this material in their blographies. The famous debate with Douglas occupies a large portion of the first volume, and the text has been carefully control and alled out from every possible source. family controversies on hand"; "Write bread from the sweat of other men's not fly from my thoughts; my solicitude for great country follows me wherever 1 go' he world will not forget that you (Rosecrans fought the battle of Stone River, and it will never care a fig whether you rank General Grant or paper or he so ranks you?, "Omy those generals who gain successes can set up as dictators. What ask of you (Hooker) is military success, and

plied to The Tribune's criticism would save the Union. I would ortest way under the Constitution

When Lincoln was at his best, as in the Gettysburg speech and the second inaugural address, he was a master of English prose. Concerning the latter the homespun writer, modest | jution."

NAPOLEON.

MEMOIRS OF HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY.

MEMOIRS ILLUSTRATING THE HISTORY OF NAPOLEON I. From 1802 to 1815. By Baron Claude-François de Méneval, Private Secretary to Napoleon. First Consul and Emperor, Maltre des Requêtes at the Council of State under the Empire, Officer of the Legion of Honor and of the Order of the Iron Crown (Born in Faris in 1778; died in the same city in 1850). Edited by his grandson, Baron Napoleon Joseph de Méneval With Portraits and Autograph letters, Vol. I. Pp. xxi., 421. D. Appleton & Co.

It is not easy to reduce to equal terms the many estimates of Napoleon. If he was so many-sided that each biographer saw only one facet of his character, then the task of harmonizing the varied experiences of different men would be simply a process of setting them side by side. | sake of venceance fluttered within his grasp. If But they often contradict each other flatly, and the Duc d'Enghien had no share in the plots then it is difficult to deal with them in any way. | against Napoleon's life, he was probably the only There are those who seem to have been scandalized by Napoleon's fits of rare, by his brutat By sacrifleing him Napoleon said as plainly as manners, by his haste at his dinner. All these alleged faults in him wear a new aspect when perts on the battlefield, so now he met princes seen through the perspective prepared by his on even terms. He was in the world for victory Caleb B. Smith. Mr. Lincoln was apprehensive private secretary. One would say after reading cal reprisal for his own action in favoring the re- present Baron de Méneval, and translated by fate. The hawk had no call to be where the was brutal only upon a deliberate plan. At hitter Napoleon. But it was rather when his such times he betrayed great excitement, and his plans were defeated than when his own life was face wore a look that terrified those who ap- in peril that his rage flamed out. It was thus place as Napoleon's attaché before this occurred, had observed that "when excited by any violent sult of Napoleon's resentment. His predecessor dilated, swollen with the inner storm. But these In the private secretaryship was Louis Antoine | transient movements, whatever their cause may Fauvelet de Bourrienne, subsequently Minister have been, in no way brought disorder to his Plenipotentiary to Hamburg, Prefect of Police in mind. He seemed to be able to control at will Paris and under Louis XVIII Cabinet Minister, these explosions, which, by-the-way, as time went Bourrienne was one of those men who profited on became less frequent. His head remained together, and the humbler of the two accom- luded to. The young attaché was not always panied his friend, now his commander, on the campaigns in Italy and Egypt. His careful con- liked balls and parties, and fell into the way of

none of any sort upon the subject, except a sin- more difficult to change my purpose than if the hough it was out of proportion to his known in- But some police reports, perhaps, had put the it actually exhibits only two rhyme-endings in the whole poem (exclusive of the Faure-endings in the

"Give any papers and keys which you have of mine to Méneval and withdraw. And never let

me see you again." As soon as the words were uttered he left the room, slamming the door violently. For a short time Méneval exchanged letters with Bourrienne. But the First Consul watched everything, and he soon put a stop to this furtive correspondence. When, long afterward, Bourrienne was sent to Hamburg, Napoleon, Emperor by this time, gave him the usual formal audience, but nothing more; and still later, when Bourstenne persistently sought the cross of the Legion of Honor, Napoleon told Méneval to write a reply that as he worshipped the golden calf he should have money; but that as to the Legion of Honor, the Emperor " only gave that to those who . meaning, however, is plain enough and not lacking in bitterness. Then Méneval was warned not to call himself secretary, but simply attache. In the light of Pourrienne's conduct Meneval's offence was triding. Its magnitude cannot be

estimated correctly, however, without taking into consideration the frequent attempts that were made to assassinate Napoleon, the continual rumor of conspiracies against him in Paris and elsewhere, and the natural resentment and desire for revenge which these things awoke in a man by whom human life on the average was never overestimated. Méneval makes it clear matter of course. He seemed to have no time to be frightened or to take precautions. But when he thought there was real danger he was more active than the secret police. Even then it is not important facts by Mr. Sherard, ceems superfluous. In substance Méneval says that Napoleon, though he never meant that sentence should be antine carried out upon the Due d'Enghien until he himself had a chance to pass upon the finding of the shot. Meneval holds to the theory that Napoleon own narrative a very plausible argument might | with impatience for the remainder. trenchant as Horace Greeley, as when he is to The Tribune's criticism in this way: whole affair and meant the death of the Duke. whole affair and meant the death of the Duke.

The shooting of a Bourbon prince was a trifle in the career of a man whose business was a deadly one to millions of human beings. Napolean well understood that from one point of view pendous crime. An anecdote which shows that he could take this condemnatory point of view without flinching is given in this volume on the authority of the "Memoirs of Stanislas Girardia." Girardin, in describing a visit which Napoleon made to Ermenonville when he was First Consul, said that he paused before the tamb of Jean Jucques Rousseau and, gazing upon it, exclaimed henever I shall believe doing more will help that it would have been better for France If this man had never existed.

"And why so, Citizen Consul?" asked Girardin. "It was he who prepared the French Revo-

"I should not have thought, Citizen Consul, that

you had any reason to complain of the Revolu-"Well," said Napoleon, "the future will show

whether it would not have been better for the peace of the world that neither I nor Rousseau had ever lived As long as the men who plotted his death were

he had accomplished the destroying labor for which his genius fitted him. That is, in ordinary phrase, he trusted to his star. When the obscure would-be murderers were caught, it sufless he was on the watch continually to fly at a quarry worthy of his own dignity. He measured "What will you say to our boy when he cries for "Ma," there in Saint Louis?" himself, a self-made monarch, by the men born to the purple, and patiently waited for one of there magnificent creatures, to whom he had once looked up perhaps with wonder, to enter the trap which sooner or later must catch some one. It was exactly like a campaign, except that where assassination was concerned Napoleon's strategy, down to the last act of the tragedy, was defensive, not aggressive. Just as he was delighted when England did not accept the peace proffered in 1800, so, doubtless, he was delighted in his heart, though his face never betrayed him, when a prince worth killing for the pure member of his family who could say as much. words could say it that, as he met military exor for nothing. It is waste of breath to talk about the justice or injustice of Duc d'Enghien's that he ever received from Napoleon. Even in pression. A sort of rotary movement very visihis eyebrows; his eyes flashed fire; his nostrils at his desk, especially for work at night. He

right to rage freely when the humor took him. HOW HE WAS LED TO WRITE A COMIC OPERA.

The explosion, which took place in the nick of time, was brought about by a parcel which I had sent off by a courier, and which for some reason or other was not punctually delivered at its address. One day, on my arrival at the cabinet, a huissier told me that the Emperor had asked for me in an excited tone of voice. Just as the huissier was going away the Emperor made his appearance. He addressed me in a very animated way, and with an anger which seemed rather feigned than real, reproached me for my neglect of his cabinet, adding that I paid no attention at all, that I was constantly absent, that I absolutely neglected his affairs, and that an important dispatch had been lost by my fault. Then without waiting to hear any explanation from the minimum of the manager gave an evasive answer. Then without waiting to hear any explanation from me he went out to call the courier, and shouted out to him all that his anger could suggest on the subject. Then returning he brusquely opened all the packets which were on his writing table. He told me that he did not wish me to was said and done with so much volubility and precipitation that I was unable to get in a single word. I had never before seen him in such a state of excitement. After this scene he went off to his levee, and thence to breakfast, and did not show himself again. A few minutes before dinner-time I was summoned into the little draw-ag-room which adjoined his cabinet, where I found him working with the Secretary of State. Napoleon rose on my entrance and approached me with a calm and composed air. In the presence of the Minister he gave me a really puternal lecture, speaking to me of the confidence which he had pinced in me, of my duties, of the future, of all the speak and the secretary of the summer of the single was suggested. He seemed, when Shakespeare was mentioned, to take to the suggestion, but said nothing. Some days later M. Maurel sent in the manuscript of Delair's adaptation of "The thought it contained a subject for a comic opera, Signor Verdi wrote from Genoa that he liked the adaptation. It had everything requisite for the libration of the single word. presence of the Minister he gave me a ready paternal lecture, speaking to me of the confidence which he had placed in me, of my duties, of the honor attaching to their right fulfilment, of my future, of all the good he wished me, and so on, speaking to me with so much kindness that, although I had made up my mind to listen to him coldly. I could not help feeling very much touched. He told me that it was necessary that I should cease my abcences, because he would have to work all the week. As a matter of fact he thought there was real danger he was more active than the secret police. Even then it is not certain that the game was not more stirring than the peril. The fate of the Duc d'Enghien is the central fact in all the history of conspiracies and counterplots. Cruel as the story of the death of that young prince may be, it was no more than Napoleon would have suffered at the hands of the Bourbons if they could have had their way. In this view of the case the defence of Napoleon made by Méneval, and traversed as to certain important facts by Mr. Sherard, reems superflusibly which he can be came to his cabinet in the evening, remaining there a quarter of an hour before calling me, there are during the ones a quarter of an hour before calling me, in the most cordial manner possible, calling me his 'Dear Ménevalor'—dear little Méneval—a term of friendship which he often used toward me, made no further allusion to the grievances of the day and tried to make me forget them. There ended this quarrei, which was never remeded this quarrei, which was never recased to find him good, patient and indulgent in his treatment of me. I had occasion afterward. I do not remember in who connection, to all the came to his came to his came to his came to his came in to his author before calling me his 'Dear Ménevalor'—dear little Méneval—a term of friendship which he often used toward me, made no further allusion to the grievances of the day and tried to make me forget them. There ended this quarrei, which was never recased to find him good, patient and indulgent in his treatment of me. I had occasion afterward. I do not remember in who connection, to all the other and the came to his came in to his author dear little Méneval—a term of friendship which he often used toward me, made no further allusion to the grievances of the day and tried to make me forget hem. There ended this quarrei, which has never the attention of the day and tried to make me forget hem. There ended this quarrei, which has never the attention of the came to his came to his cabinet in the evening, remaining allude to this scene. "My dear a essary for me to put my confidence in quar-

Thenceforward, as a rule, Napoleon opened his own letters. But the description of this unpleascourt-martial, yet took all the blame upon him- ant experience reveals more than one curious self when he found that the young man had been | phase in the most puzzling character of modern times. Neither the editor nor the translator of was innocent of any hidden design. Neverthe- Méneval's memoirs has miscalculated his deep he less, he repeats all the strange mistakes and de- interest, an interest which does not depend less, he repeats all the strange mistakes and de-lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of that fatal night which worked with such lays of the substance of what is curious unanimity toward one result. From his related. Whoever reads this volume will wait

LITERARY NOTES,

The unpublished letters of Edgar Allan Poe. which have been found lately among the papers of his career must always be denounced as a stu-"The Century" They deal with Poe's life in Rich- adjusting you mond, Philadelphia and New-York.

> Mr. Henry G. McVickar has written a novel ich is to be published under the title of "The any Purple Light of Love," by the Appletons.

The autho, of the phrase, "A conspiracy of silence," which has been used in politics in Parlia-ment and out for the last six years, was Mrs. her

The Atlantic," and was permitted to look at the BIBLIOPHILES PAY FOR THEIR FANCY. proof sheets, which had just come from the printer. 'It was "The Pilot's Story,' " he says in the July "which, I suppose, has had as much ac entance as anything of mine in verse (I do not tempted to treat in a phase of the National traged; the demand:

"'What will you say to our boy when he cries for me, there in Saint Louis"

simple, but a fatel proofreader had not thought ficed to let the law take its course. But doubt- it well enough, or simple and natural enough, and

"He had even had the inspiration to quote the word he preferred to the one I had written, so that there was no merciful possibility of mistaking valdarfer. The Marquis of Blandford sold in 1820 it for a misprint, and my blood froze in my veins at sight of it. Mr. Fields had given me the sheets to read while he looked over some letters, and he either felt the chill of my horror, or I made some sign or sound of dismay that caught his notice, for he looked round at me. I could only show him the passage with a gas. I dare say he might have liked to laugh, for it was cruelly funny, but he did not; he was concerned for the magazine, as well as for me. He declared that when he first read the line he had thought I could not have written it so, and he agreed with me that it would kill the second if it came out in that shape. He in large and if it came out in that shape He in. at slebt of it. Mr. Fields had given me the sheets written it so, and he agreed with me that it would kill the peem if it came out in that shape. He instantly set about repairing the mischief, so far as could be. He found that the whole edition of that sheet had been printed, and the air blackers! round me again, lighted up here and there with baleful flashes of the newspaper wit at my cost, which I previsioned in my misery; I knew what I should have said of such a thing myself if it had been another's. But the publisher at once decided that the sheet must be reprinted, and I went away weak, as if in the escape from some went away weak, as if in the escape from some deadly peril. Afterward it appeared that the line trations, brought \$3,400 at the auction of Quantindeadly peril. Afterward it appeared that the line tra

plays and novels. He is a feverish and spasmodic worker, but when in the mood can work very hard. "When the fit is upon me," he says, "I allow

VERDI AND HIS WORKS,

Writing in "La Revue de Paris," M. Maurel detragic opera. He said he would prefer to write a comic one. The manager gave an evasive answer,

Cimarosa, Rossini, Donizetti. The present style was too orchestral to suit it, and masters of the much present day had not the courage to write only what music was necessary. In their orchestral senorities they muffled up the sculptural obtline, or what They overdid the dramatic situations. As for him-Signor Verc: said: "Too late, alas! I return

you 764x manuscript."
Two years later M. Maurel was again with Signor Verdi at the Doria Palace in Genoa. The master asked if he remembered how silent he was when Shakespeare was mentioned as more inspiring than Signor Boito at a Shakespes Signor Boito at a Shakespearian comic opera, and suspected that somebody had been talking about it. Signor Verdi never talks of any work in hand until arrangements are concluded for its operatic production. The subject that he and Signor Boito had chosen was "Falstaff." Signor Boito, fearing that the Palstaff of "Henry IV" was too powerfully delineated for a comic opera, and the Falstaff of "The Merry Wives" was too low a fellow, designed a personage partly from the Shakespearian comedy and party from a lifteenth century tale, "Il Pecorone," which M. Maurel thinks Shakespeare must have read. The music for this libretto was composed in 1896 and the two following years, on the farm estate of Busseto, which contains the village of Roncole, where Signor Verdi was born, and as a boy was the church organist. The villa-

Colmore Dunn. It was the title of one of her novels.

Mr. Howells's first experience with realism was not altogether a happy one. The young man, while paying his first visit to his Boston publishers, was paid in gold for a nown he had some property of the paying his first visit to his Boston publishers, was paid in gold for a nown he had some property of the prope

LIST OF THE TWENTY-FIVE HIGHEST-PRICED BOOKS IN THE WORLD-SOME OF THE PEOPLE WHO OWN THEM.

The fabulous prices often paid for books seem astonishing to all save the bibliophiles themselves. Small fortunes have been given for books the consteamboat. A young planter has gambled away Small fortunes have been given for books the con-the slave girl, who is the mother of his child, and tents of which, in the opinion of many people, were those to whom a handsomely bound volume is of no more value than a paper-covered one—has been "I had thought this very well and natural and prepared by Henri Buagneaux, an authority on the subject, giving the actual and estimated value of some of the most precious books in the wi bought a copy for 12,000 francs, and presented it to the National Library in Paris. Quaritch, in London, owns a copy of the second edition, 1439.

a copy of the same edition for \$5.460.
"Les Figures de Molère," by Boucher. It was sold at the auction of the library of Baron Pichos

went away weak, as if in the escape from some deadly peril. Afterward it appeared that the line had passed the first proofreader as I wrote it, but that the final reader had entered so sympathetically into the realistic intention of my poem as to contribute the modification which had nearly been my end."

Mr. Anthony Hope Hanking—the "Anthony Hope whose name appears on the title pages of "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "Mr. Witt's Widow"—is a London barrister. He is a tail, thin, dark man, with luminous, dark eyes and a clean-shaven fac, which would, it is said, be ascetic if it were not bubbling with humor.

Miss Kate Sanborn has written another book about her "Abandoned Farm." This time she tells the story of "Abandoning an Adopted Farm."

The only literary debt which Charlotte Bronté owed to her father has been discovered, the phrase "To the finest fibre of my nature." This is what Jane Eyre says to Rochester when he asiss her if he ouits her, and it appears in an early poem of the Rev. Patrick Bronté.

Alphonse Daudet is quoted in "McClure's Magazine" as saying that since 1878 he has never made less than a hundred thousand francs a year from his p'ays and novels. He is a feverish and spasmodle worker, but when in the mood can work very larged and the prisoner of the Rev. Patrick Bronté.

A FIMOUS RIDE FOR KOSSUTH'S SAKE

A FAMOUS RIDE FOR KOSSUTH'S SAKE